

Claims:

1. A method for producing a postal item, whereby order data for a postal item that is to be printed and/or sent is generated in an order component,

characterized by the following steps:

- receiving electronic order data;
- breaking down the order data into address information of a recipient and a goods identification code;
- preparing the address information in a form that can be linked to the goods;
- linking the goods to the address information and
- delivering the goods linked to the address information as a postal item.

2. The method according to claim 1, characterized in that a postage indicium is generated, taking into account the address information of the recipient.

3. The method according to one or both of claims 1 or 2, characterized in that the order data is stored in a transaction computer.

4. The method according to claim 3, characterized in that the transaction computer performs an automatic comparison between the stock of goods and one or more pending orders.

5. The method according to one or both of claims 3 or 4,  
characterized in that

the warehouse management control unit transmits the order data to the material flow control computer and the material flow control computer controls the material flow in such a way that the goods and/or additional goods are placed into picking containers and/or directly into a transport container provided for the shipment as a postal item.

6. The method according to one or more of claims 3 to 5,  
characterized in that

the transaction computer controls an automated auction procedure.

7. The method according to claim 6,  
characterized in that

the transaction computer transmits the address information of the customer who placed the highest bid in the auction procedure to a computer of a seller who is offering the goods for sale at auction.

8. The method according to one or more of the preceding claims,  
characterized in that

a postage indicium for the postal item is generated in an automated process.

9. The method according to claim 8,  
characterized in that

the generation of the postage indicium is controlled by the warehouse management control unit.

10. The method according to claim 8,  
characterized in that  
the generation of the postage indicium is controlled by a computer of the recipient.

11. The method according to one or more of claims 8 to 10,  
characterized in that  
the recipient is notified of the execution of the franking.

12. A device for generating a postal item,  
characterized by  
the combination of the following features:

- a means for receiving address information and a goods identification code that identifies the goods;
- a means for storing the address information and the goods identification code;
- a means for linking the goods to the address information and
- a means to link the goods to the address information.

13. The device according to claim 12,  
characterized in that  
the means to link the goods to the address information is a printer.

14. The device according to claim 12,  
characterized in that  
the means to link the goods to the address information is a transmitter that is  
designed in such a way that it can transmit the address information to a transponder  
that can be affixed to the goods.